

## CLAIMS

1. A gas generating agent wherein the gas generating agent is a tubular molded article formed with a non-azide-based composition, and both ends of the molded article are squashed.
2. The gas generating agent as recited in Claim 1, wherein an outer diameter  $D$  of the molded article of the gas generating agent is from 1.4mm to 4mm, a length  $L$  thereof is from 1.5mm to 8mm, and an inner diameter  $d$  of an internal space of the molded article is from 0.3mm to 1.2mm.
3. The gas generating agent as recited in Claim 1 or Claim 2, wherein a tank maximum pressure  $P$ (kPa) is from 50 kPa to 700 kPa in a tank combustion test.
4. The gas generating agent as recited in Claim 1 or Claim 2, wherein time  $T$ (ms) from the start-up of a tank pressure to the attainment of a tank maximum pressure  $P$ (kPa) is from 20 ms to 100 ms, and a pressure-time curve is traced like the letter S.
5. The gas generating agent as recited in Claim 1 or Claim 2, wherein the non-azide-based composition is composed of a

nitrogen-containing organic compound, an oxidizing agent, a slag forming agent, and a binder.

6. The gas generating agent as recited in Claim 5, wherein the non-azide-based composition has a combination of the nitrogen-containing organic compound ranging from 32.5% by weight to 60% by weight, the oxidizing agent ranging from 35% by weight to 65% by weight, the slag forming agent ranging from 0.5% by weight to 15% by weight, and the binder ranging from 0.5% by weight to 15% by weight.

7. The gas generating agent as recited in Claim 5, wherein the nitrogen-containing organic compound is one kind or two or more kinds selected from the group consisting of a tetrazole derivative and a guanidine derivative.

8. The gas generating agent as recited in Claim 5, wherein the nitrogen-containing organic compound consists of any one kind of guanidine nitrate, nitroguanidine, and 5-aminotetrazole; the oxidizing agent consists of any one kind of or a combination of two or more kinds of strontium nitrate, basic copper nitrate, phase-stabilized ammonium nitrate, potassium nitrate, and ammonium perchlorate; the slag forming agent consists of any

one kind of silica, acid clay, and silicon nitride; and the binder consists of any one kind of or a combination of two or more kinds of hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, polyvinylpyrrolidone, and polyacrylamide.

9. The gas generating agent as recited in Claim 8, wherein the nitrogen-containing organic compound contains guanidine nitrate ranging from 32.5% by weight to 60% by weight; the oxidizing agent contains strontium nitrate or basic copper nitrate ranging from 35% by weight to 65% by weight; the slag forming agent contains acid clay ranging from 0.5% by weight to 15% by weight; and the binder contains any one kind of polyacrylamide, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, polyvinylpyrrolidone, graphite, and silicon dioxide ranging from 0.5 % by weight to 15% by weight.

10. A process for producing a gas generating agent tubularly molded so as to squash both ends thereof, comprising the steps of passing a tubular molded article of a gas generating agent being wet through a gap between a pair of molding gears rotated so that mutual convex teeth of the molding gears face each other; squashing the molded article at predetermined intervals by means of the convex teeth; and cutting the molded article in such

a way as to fold the molded article at squashed concave parts thereof and drying resultant pieces.

11. A process for producing a gas generating agent, comprising the steps of passing a tubular molded article of a gas generating agent being wet through a gap between a pair of molding gears rotated so that mutual convex teeth of the molding gears face each other; squashing the molded article at predetermined intervals by means of the convex teeth; drying the molded article; and cutting the molded article.

12. A process for producing the gas generating agent of Claim 11 wherein both ends thereof are squashed.

13. A process for producing the gas generating agent of Claim 11 or Claim 12 wherein the molded article is cut in such a way as to be folded at squashed concave parts, and then classification is performed.

14. An air-bag gas generator using the gas generating agent of Claim 1.

15. An air-bag gas generator using the gas generating agent

of Claim 2.

16. An air-bag gas generator using the gas generating agent of Claim 3.

17. An air-bag gas generator using the gas generating agent of Claim 4.

18. An air-bag gas generator using the gas generating agent of Claim 5.

19. An air-bag gas generator using the gas generating agent of Claim 6.

20. An air-bag gas generator using the gas generating agent of Claim 7.

21. An air-bag gas generator using the gas generating agent of Claim 8.

22. An air-bag gas generator using the gas generating agent of Claim 9.